ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Birmingham Baptist Association

HELD WITH

BESSEMER BAPTIST CHURCH,

BESSEMER, JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA,

OCTOBER 10TH, 11TH, AND 12TH, 1890.

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ROBERTS & SON, LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS AND BINDERS,
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OFFICERS:

A. J. WALDROP, Moderator, - - - Woodlawn, Ala.
R. W. BECK, Clerk, - - - - - - East Lake, Ala.

The next session of the Association will be held with the Trussville Baptist Church, at Trussville, Alabama, commencing on Wednesday before the first Sunday in October, 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m,

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Order of Business.

1. Reading of Church Letters.
2. Enrollment of Delegates.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Receive Churches Applying for Admission.
5. Appoint Special Committees.
6. Receive Correspondence.
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Report on Foreign Missions.
10. Report on Home Missions.
11. Report on State Missions.
12. Report on Religious Literature and Colportage Work.
13. Report on Education.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Report on Sabbath Schools.
16. Report on Temperance.
17. Report on Church Improvements.
18. Report on Documents.
19. Report on Nominations.
20. Report of Treasurer.
21. Report of Finance Committee.
22. Appoint Standing Committees.
23. Report of Committee on Spiritual Condition of Churches.
24. Report of Executive Committee.
25. Miscellaneous Business.
26. Adjournment.

MINUTES.

The fifty-seventh annual session of the Birmingham Baptist Association assembled in the meeting house of the Bessemer Baptist Church at 10 o'clock A. M., Friday, October 10, 1890.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. A. J. Waldrop, and a half hour was devoted to devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. P. T. Hale.

The order of business as published in the last minutes was adopted.

Brothers A. W. McGaha and H. H. Brown were appointed to read the letters from the churches, and the following names were enrolled as delegates:

Avondale—Rev. J. M. Green, —— Faggard, Geo. Garrard, Gilbert Carter and —— Cooper.

Adger—J. B. Boston.

Bessemer—M. M. Wood, A. M. Hendon, J. L. Thurman, A. A. Harris and T. P. Waller.

Bethany—J. P. Pearson, Levi McBrayer and C. W. McClendon.

Birmingham, First Church—Rev. W. L. Pickard, Rev. D. I. Purser, A. B. Johnston, G. G. Miles, E. L. Ballard, A. E. Williams, D. B. Pearson, E. H. Cabaniss, R. F. Manley, Henry Fowlkes, Geo. B. Bates and W. J. Pearce.

Birmingham, South Side—W. M. Malone, M. B. Swanson, W. B. Alexander, R. Holtam, William Nalls and Rev. P. T. Hale.

Birmingham, Second—A. N. Hawkins, J. P. Rockett and J. Y. Radford.

Birmingham, Third—Rev. Jas. Hogan, N. H. Sayers, G. M. Allen and Beatty Thompson.

Canaan—Jos. Massey, J. W. Cooley and W. S. Harrison.

Central—J. M. Pressley, R. M. Inzer, G. W. Hicks, J. F. Franklin and G. V. Praytor.

Concord—W. L. Echols, Jas. Letcher and B. T. Franklin.

Dolomite—Rev. E. L. Nicholson, R. Y. Robinson, S. G. Robinson, E. A. Harrison and J. P. Warnick.

Elyton—C. B. Lloyd, B. F. Weaver and M. R. Rockett.

Enon—M. P. Rogers and M. D. Hagood.

Ensley—J. K. Pemberton, E. G. Sills and Henry Rury.

Green Springs--G. A. Robertson, G. W. Smith and T. J. Windfield.

Hopewell—

John—W. A. Bynum and R. H. Briston.

Mt. Olive—J. M. Landrum and W. J. Sanford.

New Prospect—Rev. M. T. Branham, J. D. Fawlks, W. L. C. Vann, W. O. M. Franklin and J. J. Heaton.

Oak Grove—Jas. A. McCombs, T. A. Anderson and A. J. Glenn.

Pratt Mines—R. M. Cunningham, J. F. Huey, J. E. Weaver, J. W. Minor and Rev. G. T. Lee.

Pleasant Ridge—O. J. Waldrop, T. Robertson and J. V. Huey.

Ruhama—Rev. A. W. McGaha, Rev. A. J. Waldrop, R. W. Beck, T. J. Dill, J. M. Huey, H. H. Brown, T. V. B. Moor and Rev. B. F. Riley.

Salem—Wm. Franklin, J. L. Watson, Wm. Moore and J. H. Hagood.

Springville—Rev. G. W. Lovell, G. M. Truss, J. I. Washington, J. W. Inzer and A. G. Nunnelly.

Trussville—M. K. Vann, R. H. Hendon, D. Franklin, D. H. Vann and N. N. Vann.

Union—C. E. Fulton and W. H. Connell.

Warrior—H. A. Hagler, Rev. W. A. Hobson and J. M. Bibb.

Woodlawn—Rev. S. R. C. Adams, W. I. Gibson, T. J. Mason, J. T. Hood and Rev. G. D. Staton.

The preaching of the introductory sermon was postponed to the night session.

The following officers were unanimously re-elected, to-wit:

Moderator—Rev. A. J. Waldrop.

Clerk—R. W. Beck.

Corresponding Secretary—Rev. M. M. Wood.

Assistant Clerk—J. F. Huey.

Treasurer—Felix M. Wood.

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha, all the delegates present were seated.

Rev. Mr. Nicholson, chaplain of the State convicts, was then granted the floor to speak to the body of his work, which he did.

The hours for meeting were fixed at 9 to 12 in the morning, 2 to 5 in the afternoon, 7:30 at night and adjourn at will. Adjourned.

FIRST DAY—Afternoon Session.

Two o'clock P. M.—The body was called to order by the Moderator. Devotional exercises conducted by Dr. Pickard. After some timely words of admonition from the Moderator, some letters from several churches, whose delegates had arrived late, were read. After reading the letters, petitionary letters were called for, and the following churches applied for membership, viz.: Union and John Churches, and upon motion of P. T. Hale, the applications were referred to the following committee: W. L. Pickard, J. L. Thurman and F. M. Wood.

The Moderator then announced the following special committees:

Finance—D. B. Pearson, W. L. C. Vann and T. J. Mason.

Documents—H. H. Brown, William Franklin and J. L. Thurman.

Nominations—G. G. Miles, J. H. Eubank and J. M. Pressley.

Devotions—Pastor and Deacons of Bessemer Church, with S. R. C. Adams and M. T. Branham.

Correspondents were then called for, and was answered by Dr. D. I Purser, Financial Secretary of Howard College; Rev. S. P. Lindsay of *The Alabama Baptist*; Dr. B. F. Riley, President of Howard College; Rev. J. H. Curry, J. L. Champion and I. C. Lawrence from the Tuscaloosa Association; S. L. Waldrop from Sulphur Springs Association, and R. W. Inzer from the Cahaba Valley Association.

Upon motion of P. T. Hale, the report on education was made the special order for this hour. The report was read by B. F. Riley, and was discussed by B. F. Riley and D. I. Purser in able and earnest speeches.

At the conclusion of Dr. Purser's speech a subscription to the Dormitory fund of Howard College was taken, which amounted, in cash and notes, to $1,005.

Upon motion the report was adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education, both as to method and principle, is, to-day, in the forefront of human interests. As a system, in its practical effect, it has come to underlie everything that is useful. In the past, when institutions of learning were scarce, men sometimes rose to heights of eminence; but this was due, not to a lack of education so much, it was due to the flexibility of our republican institutions, and to the peculiar conditions by which men in the past were surrounded. Because of the paucity of colleges, men could not be fitted as they otherwise would have been for life, and yet they were needed to fill positions of trust and responsibility. Hence, we find that our American history abounds in the records of men who attained to prominence though they were untaught in the schools. This is but a feeble pretext for neglecting educational training now. As the country has grown, and its institutions—social, political and religious—have increased, its people have risen in the scale of moral and intellectual excellence, so that the demand for educated men and women has augmented. To ignore the demands of the present period for scholastically trained men and women is to disregard the high interests of the present generation.

Responding to this demonstration of the times, both the Church and the state are seeking to supply the demand. Christian denominations, recognizing the fact that the school and the college are indispensable adjuncts to usefulness, alike in private and public walks, are establishing institutions of learning of such varied grade as to equal the demands of the times. While contributing to the public school and to the maintenance of State colleges in common with other citizens who are not Christians, they are also establishing and sustaining academies, colleges and universities through voluntary contributions, in order that a moral and religious bias may be given to the public mind.

The reception with which such efforts have been met may be seen by reference to the census of 1880. At that time the property of denominational colleges was three times as great as that of all non-denominational colleges together, including those founded by the State. Four-fifths of all the collegiate students in the country in 1880 were in denominational colleges. The increase of these colleges was five times that of the non-denominational. The increase of students in them was more than five times that of the non-denominational. While the population of the United States has increased four-fold, the denominational colleges and the students in them have increased nearly eight-fold, or nearly twice as rapidly as population. In this enumeration two facts are quite clear, viz: First, that the Christians of this continent have not been slow to recognize the importance of scholastic training

under wholesome influences; and, second, that the country has appreciated the commendable efforts put forth by Christian people.

While not falling a whit behind the most advanced schools of secular character, these Christian colleges have striven to combine with mental discipline the highest moral training.

Belonging exclusively to the Baptists of Alabama, are the two institutions, the Howard and the Judson, established and maintained during a former generation by our fathers and grandfathers.

The Baptists of Alabama were among the pioneers of Christian education in the South. Full of usefulness and of years these two institutions have been transmitted to us of the present generation. Like other colleges around them, they have had eventful careers; but they have come through the ordeals of war and of flame, and the present year finds them the peers of the leading colleges of the South in scholastic instruction, while they are pervaded by the spirit of Christianity.

The sessions of these colleges last year were most successful ones. The enrollment at Howard College was 170, thirty-five of which number were ministerial students. This year the college has opened most auspiciously. Already there are enrolled 159 students. With the new buildings our numbers will be greatly increased.

The Judson Female Institute, at Marion, closed last June one of its most prosperous years, and the present session finds its matriculation roll greatly enlarged.

If Baptists would give to these colleges the support which they could, it would be impossible to estimate the amount of reflex influence exerted in this State and elsewhere in favor of the promulgation of our denominational principles.

Another institution, dear to Baptists throughout the South, deserves appropriate mention in this connection. Allusion is had to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, at Louisville, Ky. In some respects, it is without a rival on the continent. Within its faculty are men of prodigious intellect and profound consecration.

This, too, deserves our prayers, our labors and our gifts.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. RILEY, *Chairman.*

The committee to whom was referred the applications of new churches, report as follows:

We your committee appointed to examine into the Baptist validity of the petitionary letters of the Baptist Church at Johns, and of the Union Missionary Baptist Church, report as follows: The petition of John's Church is every way regular, but that the petition of the Union Missionary Baptist Church is a little irregular, in this, that it should have gone this session to the Harmony Association, of which it is a member, and gotten a letter from that Association to join this, but as we are assured that perfect harmony exists between the Church and the Harmony Association, and that it is best for the Church to become a

member of the Canaan Association, we recommend the reception of these two churches, and the seating of their delegates.

W. L. PICKARD,
J. L. THURMAN,
F. M. WOOD,
Committee.

Dr. W. L. Pickard was recognized as the representative of the Ministerial Board.

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha it was ordered that any member of this body who may attend the meeting of any other Association, shall be the correspondent from this body to the one he may attend.

Upon motion of G. D. Staton, S. T. Vann was admitted as a delegate from New Prospect Church.

The following resolution was offered by H. H. Brown:

Resolved, That the name of this Association be changed to "Birmingham," instead of "Canaan."

and, after general discussion, was referred to a special committee of five, said committee consisting of H. H. Brown, P. T. Hale, M. K. Vann, G. D. Staton and J. B. Glenn.

Upon motion of P. T. Hale, the name of Bro. Stiff was added to the list of delegates from South Side Church, in place of M. B. Swanson.

Adjourned with benediction by Dr. Riley.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION—7:30 O'Clock.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and after prayer by Rev. S. R. C. Adams, the body listened to the very clear and edifying introductory sermon by Rev. A. W. McGaha, of East Lake, from the Scriptures found in the fifteenth chapter of Luke, first and second verses.

At the close of the sermon the congregation sang: "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow," and the body proceeded to business.

The report on Home Missions was read by A. W. McGaha, and was discussed at length by B. F. Riley, P. T. Hale and M. M. Wood, after which the report was adopted.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee are profoundly grateful to God to be able to make a very favorable and gratifying report of the work done on the home

field. The Home Mission Board reported at Fort Worth that more money had been raised and more work done during the last (forty-fifth) year than during any previous year of its history. Your attention is called to facts and figures showing number of missionaries employed by the Board, the work done, and the money collected:

Missionaries employed	371
Churches and stations	1,182
Sermons and addresses	38,741
Baptisms	4,477
Received by letter	3,621
Sunday Schools organized	336
Churches organized	267
Houses of worship built	84
Bibles and Testaments distributed	5,728
Total cash receipts and vouchers	$167,576.22
Included in the above amount for building houses of worship on fields	37,424.85

Alabama contributed last year, $4,336.17; number of missionaries employed in Alabama, 15; Board expended in Alabama, $2,571.39.

The work among the colored people is not what it might be, however the Board is doing the best they can. In addition to fifty missionaries among them, five white brethren have been employed as theological instructors.

The wonderful work done by our twenty-one missionaries in Cuba is the admiration and talk of the Christian world. The total membership is over 1,700. Average attendance upon day school is about 700. There are more than 2,000 pupils in the Sunday Schools, about twenty young men are preparing for the ministry. A school for their instruction is a necessity.

NEW WORK.

At the recent session of the Convention, the Board made a special report on the new work which ought to be done the present year.

"1. Mission Work in the Indian Territory ought to be increased, and $2,000 additional will be required for that purpose.

"2. A mission in New Mexico is imperatively demanded, which will require $2,000 more.

"3. The Board ought to increase its appropriation to Eastern Kentucky, East Tennessee, Western North Carolina and Northeastern Georgia not less than $5,000.

"4. Our work among the foreign population in Missouri and Texas ought to be enlarged, and $2,000 will be required for this purpose.

"5. Work among the colored people ought to be so extended as to give $1,000 each to Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas.

"6. In the work of church building, the smallest amount consistent with any sort of efficiency must not be less than $10,000.

"7. $15,000 will be needed to make the next payment on the house of worship in Havana.

"8. Our work in Cuba, so rapidly enlarging, will require $2,000 more than last year.

"These amounts aggregate $43,000 of new work, which presses upon the Board.

" This sum of $43,000, added to the $70,000 expended last year, and which must be expended on the same fields this year, make $112,000 required by the Board for the present year's work. If the churches will contribute $100,000 of this sum, the Board will secure the remaining $12,000 from other sources, such as legacies, cemetery in Cuba, rents of property, etc."

There are within the bounds of the convention 1,250,000 Baptists. If each one gives 10 cents we would have enough to meet the demands of the Board, and the handsome sum of $25,000 as a surplus.

Alabama has been asked to contribute for the present year $6,500—a little less than 7 cents apiece for our 95,000 members. Shame on the man who says we can't! God pity and save the man who won't try.

A. W. McGAHA.

After several announcements, the body adjourned with prayer by Rev. M. M. Wood.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION—9 O'CLOCK.

The Moderator called the body to order, and after prayer by Rev. W. A. Hobson, a half hour's devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. B. F. Riley.

Upon motion of Rev. S. R. C. Adams, Felix M. Wood was seated as a delegate from Woodlawn Church.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by Rev. P. T. Hale, and was discussed by P. T. Hale, B. F. Riley, A. W. McGaha and A. J. Waldrop, after which the report was adopted.

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha, the name of the Sunday school supporting a girl at Madero Institute, was given. It is the Sunday School of the South Side Church.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In our Foreign Mission work Christ has redeemed his promise: " Lo, I am with you alway."

At the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention last May, the Board reported that it had sent out in the twenty previous months forty new missionaries. Three of these—the consecrated Miss Mary J. Thornton, and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McCollum—are from our own State. Bro. and Mrs. McCollum, together with Bro. and Mrs. J. A. Brunson were present at the last meeting of this Association, and received from it the

parting hand before sailing to their distant field of labor in the promising isle of Japan.

We call especial attention to the fact that the Baptist Churches in heathen lands contributed last year $4,680.87, an average of $2 to each member. This is an average, such that if it were equaled by the Baptists of Alabama, would put nearly $200,000 in the treasury of our Board —an amount nearly double that contributed by the Baptists of the entire South.

The Board received this conventional year—which extended, of course, from May 1, 1889 to May 1, 1890, $109,174.20. It needed, asked for, and the Convention thought it might safely count on $150,000, but the churches failed, by nearly one-third, to raise this amount, so the work had to be curtailed, reinforcements denied to needy fields, and promising fields remain unoccupied for lack of funds.

As to Brazil, with the recent change of government to a republic, insuring religious liberty, and resulting in a complete separation of church and state, the outlook is brighter than ever before. A generous brother in Texas has given $1,000 to build a church in the great city of Rio. There have been fifty-three baptisms in Brazil in the past year.

The indefatigable W. D. Powell and his faithful co-workers are pushing our work *in Mexico*. Among the 213 baptized was a Catholic priest. One Sunday School within our bounds is supporting a girl at the Madero Institute.

In sunny Italy, and the island of Sardinia, which seems in God's providence committed only to us, Drs. Taylor and Eager, and their native assistants have led 59 from the darkness of Romanism into the light and liberty of the Gospel.

Japan presents a field full of promise, and we look for good reports from our four missionaries who have lately entered that ripe harvest field.

In the awakening of the "*Dark Continent*" we have had some part. We now have fifty-eight members who have become citizens of the Kingdom of Light. Some peculiar misfortunes have befallen us here, but we should be all the more faithful and undaunted.

In China our converts have endured some bitter persecution with the fortitude of primitive Christians. There have been eighty-two baptisms during the year, and our present membership is over 800.

Watchman, what of the night? The night passeth, the day dawneth. Bright is the prospect as the promises and purposes of God.

Your committee suggests:

1. That a club for the *Foreign Missions Journal* be raised in every Church. It has been enlarged to an interesting magazine of fine proportions. Information is the basis of interest.

2. That in addition to asking a contribution from each church member, the women and children be organized into Mission and Sunbeam Societies. The women raised last year over $21,000, and the children over $3,000.

3. That the women all co-operate with the Central Committee, located at Birmingham.

4. That as the next meeting of the Convention is in our bounds, in Birmingham, next May, we strive to have, by far, the largest report in our history, in this work of sending the gospel to the nations beyond.

Respectfully submitted, P. T. HALE, *Chairman Committee.*

The report on State Missions was read by W. L. Pickard, and discussed by W. L. Pickard, W. A. Hobson, M. M. Wood and B. F. Riley, and upon motion of A. W. McGaha it was adopted.

REPORT OF STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg to report as follows:

The increase of the spirit of missions and of giving to missions on the part of our denomination is very gratifying.

The latest complete statistical report which we have been able to get is that of the last State Convention, which is as follows:

Men employed	53
Miles traveled	34,800
Sermons delivered	3,587
Addresses made	1,235
Churches constituted	14
Number of persons baptized	345
Baptized by others in connection with labors	430
Received by letter	547
Restored	54
Sunday Schools organized	54
Sunday Schools addressed	227
Ladies' Mission Societies organized	10
Prayer meetings organized	82
Prayer meetings held	869
Number of preaching stations without churches	132
Number of churches visited	581
Number of visits made	7,961
Number of subscribers to *Alabama Baptist*	115
Subscribers gotten to *Foreign Mission Journal*	58
Value of books sold	$3,800
Pages of tracts distributed	7,103
Meeting houses commenced	16
Meeting houses finished	5
Money collected for meeting houses	$11,072 00

Total collected collected for State Missions (16 months)		$12,908.02
Amount paid missionaries	$8,019.20	
Secretary's salary for twelve months	1,500.00	
" " " four "	500.00	
Traveling expenses of Corresponding Secretary	418.73	

Traveling expenses of special agents	125.22
Amount paid clerk hire	393.30
Pro rata Convention printing	95.02
Amount paid expense account, including stationery, printing, exchange, express, etc., etc	525.08
Balance on hand	1,327.47
Total, July, 1888, to November, 1889	$12,904.02

NECESSITIES LAID UPON US.

The material development of our State is unprecedented, marvelous, almost fabulous. Millions of dollars are being brought into our midst for investment. With this influx of money comes a great influx of population. Waste places are being rapidly turned into densely populated centers. Many of these new citizens are homogeneous in thought, in purpose, in religion. Many of them are not. Their influence will be for our institutions or against them, according to the education and religion of this population. But the religion of Christ is the principal factor in the destiny of these people, and in our destiny. We need *many, many* more houses of worship. We need good houses in many places where the local membership are utterly unable to meet the demands. We need *more preachers*, and we need some of our ablest men in the places where the Baptists at present are unable to sustain them. This is absolutely necessary if we would hold the fields in the future. We need vastly more than in the years of the past. We recommend:

1. That the churches constantly pay for the progress of the truth as it is in Jesus.

2. That the churches try to answer their prayers with their means.

3. That the ministers make their flocks more thoroughly acquainted with the subject of missions.

4. That the churches give often, regularly and systematically, and that they give until they feel it.

5. That the churches co-operate heartily with the State Mission Board.

Respectfully, W. L. PICKARD.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the resolution proposing to change the name of the Association from "Canaan" to "Birmingham," was read by H. H. Brown, and after being discussed by H. H. Brown, P. T. Hale, G. T. Lee, A. W. McGaha, W. A. Hobson and M. M. Wood, was adopted by a large majority.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution to change the

name of this body from the "Canaan Baptist Association" to the "Birmingham Baptist Association, have had the same under consideration, and unanimously recommend the adoption of the resolution.

H. H. BROWN,
Chairman.
P. T. HALE,
G. D. STATON.
M. K. VANN,
J. B. GLENN.

The report on devotions was read by Rev. M. M. Wood.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. B. F. Riley.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and led in prayer by Rev. R. W. Inzer.

The letters from Ensley and Springville churches were read and delegates seated.

The report on religious literature and colportage work was read by G. G. Miles, and after discussion by S. P. Lindsay, H. H. Brown and W. L. Pickard, upon motion of H. H. Brown, the report was amended and adopted as it is printed.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND COLPORTAGE.

Your committee regards the work of disseminating religious literature one of the most important undertakings connected with our denomination.

Our population is increasing, our railroads and towns are being built with a rapidity which is amazing. As the largest denomination in the State, what is to prevent us from pushing our peculiar doctrines to the utmost bounds of our territory.

We, as Baptists; seem to have failed to appreciate the power of the printing press. Others do appreciate this wonderful agency, and are using it for all that it is worth. Shall we not do the same, and stimulate our people to give greater diligence to this important work?

1. We recommend the *Alabama Baptist* as a means of communication between the Baptists of the State, and as an educator in the principles of morals, temperance and religion.

2. We recommend our Colportage Board, located at Opelika, as a suitable book depository, from which any and all kinds of religious books may be procured, and through which our Sunday School literature can be obtained without extra cost to us, but with profit to the Board.

3. We recommend the *Kind Words* series of Sunday School literature, now published in Atlanta, but soon to be turned over to a committee appointed at the late session of the Southern Baptist Convention with instructions to make the series as perfect in quality and as profitable to our people as possible. We recommend, therefore, that the *Kind Words* series be used by all our churches and Sunday Schools. We regret the appointment of a special agent in our State by the A. B. P. S., which is causing so much disturbance, and seems likely to create divisions in our ranks to the detriment of our general denominational enterprises. We therefore recommend, in conclusion, that our pastors and churches exercise great diligence and patience to build up our home institutions and enterprises, believing, as we do, that the Master has laid upon us great responsibilities, and placed before us grand possibilities.

4. We recommend the *Birmingham Baptist*, published by Rev. P. T. Hale, of Birmingham, as a very readable and instructive monthly paper, and especially helpful in our Association in bringing us to know each other better, and uniting us in our efforts to occupy the territory in our bounds, which is, in some respects, the most important territory of any association in the State. D. I. PURSER, *Chairman Committee.*

The report on Sunday Schools was read by G. G. Miles, and after being spoken to by H. H. Brown, G. T. Lee, P. B. Stiff, A. N. Hendon and E. H. Cabaniss, upon motion, was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The day is dawning upon us when broader plans are needed, with more vigorous and aggressive measures adopted in prosecuting this grand and glorious work.

In this enlightened age of the Nineteenth Century, all the vocations of life are moving onward with lightning-like rapidity, and if we, as Sunday School workers, do not fall into line and marshal our strength in the front ranks, we will not only fail to come up to the full measure of our duty, but our work will suffer at our hands. More efficient work and a better system is the crying need of the hour, hence, in this report it is the purpose of your Committee to digress somewhat from the old beaten path of simply giving a few stale statistics and general passing suggestions on the subject, but enter more fully into the practical common-sense divisions of our work.

In the first place, it goes without saying that every Baptist Church should have a Sunday School. Show me a church with an active, well-ordered Sunday School, and I will show you a live, progressive church. So it is a self-evident fact that the Sunday School is the pulse of the church, and just in proportion to the activity of the Sunday School, just in the same measure you will see the life-blood of the church flowing. The perplexing question very naturally arises, how are we going to succeed in securing a live Sunday School? The answer is, "Just have it."

This does not mean for just two or three consecrated members to constitute the school. Neither does it mean simply the children of the church and congregation, but it means the church. Brethren we must abandon the old idea that the Sunday School is only intended for children. There is much truth in the old saying that we are never too old to learn. It is a sad truth that many of our adult members are mere babes when it comes to knowing the Scriptures. Then why let such golden opportunities pass, and not enter actively into the Sunday School, and learn something of the word of God, and develop into the Christian graces, and in the meantime help lead souls to Christ. Our churches all need to be stirred up on this line, and the entire membership brought into greater sympathy, and closer communion with the work. It is a startling fact, that, as a general thing, we do not find but about one-tenth of our membership engaged in the Sunday School work. Any of them will tell you they like to see the work succeed, and would not be without it, but would rather not be troubled in keeping it up. Suppose we could enlist even half of those who profess Christ. What a grand army we would have for good, and what a power for tearing down the strongholds of Satan, and snatching many a brand from the burning flames, and in lieu thereof build up the waste places, in advancing the Master's cause.

The Sunday School at work, should be presided over by a man of peculiar tact for the position. Some one has said that editors are born and not acquired, and we are almost persuaded that the same may be said of Sunday School Superintendents. To say the least, he should be a man of unquestioned piety, prompt to a minute, full of life and zeal, possessed of good judgment, abounding in patience, a close student, keeping pace with the literature of the day, and to know how to select the best that is issued, and with all, clothed with brotherly love, and not too full of talk, and the thing uppermost in his mind, the conversion of souls.

But how often these qualifications are ignored, and through some personal favoritism, a friend who is wholly unfit for the place is chosen, and as a natural consequence, failure, chaos and discord follows.

The teacher occupies a position of no less responsibility than that of the Superintendent, and the enormity of its weight can only be appreciated by those who have had experience. The teacher should know his class, love and pray for them, and in preparing the lesson, try to arrange some thought which will be particularly helpful to each individual, and preparation of the lesson means study, it does not mean simply glancing at the questions and answers just the hour before starting from home on Sunday morning. When the preparation is thorough, it is not only a pleasure, but profitable to both teacher and pupil, while on the other hand, a recitation where there has been no preparation, the work is both laborious and hurtful. So we would emphasize the importance of teachers knowing what they attempt to teach, remembering that the young minds who are entrusted to our care are like the sensitive plate in the camera which receives our likeness. Just so the heart mould of the little child receives our every word and every act, which

the rolling tide of time can never efface. Through years of toil, pain and defeat these impressions remain indelibly imprinted, which help to shape the destiny of those whom we have trained in their youth. There is another thought connected with this great work of Sunday School teaching, and that is a missionary work, or it should be. The faithful teacher will endeavor to gather into his class such material as has not always enjoyed Sunday School privileges, as well as develop those who are in constant attendance; and suppose those who teach in our Sunday Schools within the next decade make a special effort to develop the spirit of missions in their pupils, and convince them that it is right and their duty to give of their substance in support of the gospel, the old custom of having to resort to almost desperate measures to raise mission money would be abandoned, and funds would always be in hand to meet every demand.

There are other essential offices aside from the two above-mentioned connected with the school, which the wise Superintendent will take especial care in supplying, viz.: Assistant Superintendent, Secretary and Treasurer and Librarian, The music should also be guarded with a watchful eye, and made one of the chief attractions.

Our Sunday School work should be pressed vigorously on. Much depends upon this department of the church in Christianizing the nations. For some reasons we should feel greatly encouraged. There are over ten million souls engaged in this great work in the United States and Canada. Much progress has also been made in our Sunday School literature. The International Series lesson papers, giving almost the entire world the same lesson every Sabbath, is not only novel in its arrangement, but doubtless works endless benefits, which perhaps no other system would accomplish, and to the columns of the various periodicals that are published, the best talent of the land is employed to contribute, unfolding with marked ability, yet with simplicity, the unsearchable riches of God's word. In this connection we would urge the importance of maintaining, as far as possible, our own Southern publications, "*Kind Words*," which would aid the Board in charge of this work in making them equal, if they are not already so, to any publication in existence, and in the meantime meet the demands of our own peculiar views.

While we have much to rejoice over in the progress of our work, there are some reasons for regret, and strong evidences of a broad field in which to labor. Coming nearer home, and more directly to the work of our own denomination, we find that in the State of Alabama we have about 96,000 Baptists, with 1,400 regularly organized churches, 743 ordained ministers. Yet we have only 500 Sunday Schools. Why is this true? Because the churches need to be aroused to the importance of this department of their work

Then, brethren of the Birmingham Association, let us resolve here to-day that when we return to our respective churches, that we will enter our work with renewed energy, and endeavor to bring all our members, with their children, into the Sunday School, and should this

be accomplished, what a grand yielding up for the Master there would be shown at our next annual gathering. We should remember that in this grand and glorious work we are marching onward and upward to loftier realms, and when we have finished our stewardship here we will hear that welcome plaudit: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Respectfully submitted, G. G. MILES, *Chairman.*

The report on nominations was read by G. G. Miles, and on motion of W. A. Hobson, was adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

1. Place of next meeting, Trussville Church.

2. On Wednesday before the first Sunday in October, 1891.

3. Introductory sermon to be preached by Rev. M. M. Woods; alternate, Rev. George T. Lee.

4. Missionary sermon by Rev. P. T. Hale; alternate, Rev. D. I. Purser.

5. Executive Committee: H. H. Brown, Gilbert Carter, J. M. Huey, T. J. Mason and John Minor.

6. Delegates to State Convention: G. D. Staton, W. L. Pickard, P T. Hale, R. W. Beck, A. W. McGaha, S. R. C. Adams, B. F. Riley, D. I. Purser, A. W. Hendon, W. C. Ward and G. G. Miles.

7. Delegate Southern Baptist Convention: A. J. Waldrop; alternate, B. F. Riley.

Respectfully submitted, G. G. MILES.

The report on Temperance was read by M. M. Wood, and after being spoken to by M. M. Wood, upon motion was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Bible teaches temperance in many things. But it does not teach that God's servants are to be either slow or weak in their advocacy of that which is pure and right, or in their opposition to that which is impure and sinful. The rule for each Christian is "Abstain from all appearance of evil." The Apostle thus lays down a rule completely prohibiting our indulgence in anything which has the appearance of evil in it. So that we are not to be temperate in sin in any form whatever.

This is especially true in the use of tobacco, opium and liquor, except purely and strictly as a medicine.

It is reliably reported that the use of tobacco is rapidly spreading among our women. The cigarette habit is assuming alarming proportions among the boys, both in and out of our cities and towns.

The liquor traffic has not yet starved to death, nor is there any prospect of it in the near future. It still hangs, like a huge cancer, on

the body politic, an eyesore to the pure and an obstruction to the spread of the gospel and the development of piety.

Birmingham's and Bessemer's annual drink bill is estimated at $3,400,000. Three-fourths of the arrests made by the police of Bessemer are for drunkenness.

The State Fair Association has again authorized the establishment of saloons on the grounds during the coming fair.

Nearly all the drug stores in the country now sell liquors by the quart, not merely as a drug, but as a beverage, solely for the money there is in it, and many of these are owned by members of the various denominations.

These evils are of such magnitude as to call for your most serious consideration. Respectfully submitted,

M. M. WOOD, *Chairman.*

Upon motion of A. W. McGaha, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five brethren, members of this Association be appointed an Examining Board, whose duties shall be to examine all applicants for support from the State Ministerial Board, and whose action shall be the action of this Association.

The Moderator appointed the following committee, viz: B. F. Riley, A. W. McGaha. P. T. Hale, S. R. C. Adams and J. M. Green, who constitute the Board raised by the resolution.

The following resolution was offered by P. T. Hale, and on motion of G. G. Miles, was adopted.

IN MEMORIAM.

Resolved, 1. That in the death of Deacons M. G. Hudson and R. H. Sterrett we have sustained a great loss as an Association.

2. That we desire to put on record our high appreciation of the lofty character, great piety and earnest zeal of these sainted brethren, and our deep sense of loss in the fact that they will meet with us in our gatherings no more.

Upon motion of P. T. Hale, the Association heartily thanked Mayor Hard and the city of Bessemer for the use of the City Hall in which the sessions of the body were held.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. W. L. Pickard.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION—7:30 O'CLOCK.

The Moderator called the body to order, and after singing and prayer by Rev. P. T. Hale, the report on documents was read by H. H. Brown, and after discussion by H. H. Brown and P. T. Hale, the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We find from an examination of the church letters that there are 244 baptisms reported, and out of that number 110 are reported from the Sunday Schools. This shows a decrease from last year's reports of twenty-one baptisms. The number reported from the Sunday Schools is comparatively small, and shows a want of interest and efficiency on the part of the Sunday School officers and teachers, and should arouse them to a more self-sacrificing and devoted work in the Sunday cause.

There are five churches that report no Sunday School, but we refrain from giving the names of these churches, hoping that at the next meeting of the Association each and every church will report a live and flourishing Sunday School.

The letters fail to show how many of the churches keep up regular prayer meetings, and we recommend that the churches hereafter report whether or not they have prayer meetings.

The letters show no ordinations of ministers or deacons during the year, and but one licensed minister—that of Bro. Hardy by the Dolomite Church. The committee, however, have information that several ordinations have taken place. In this connection we suggest that hereafter the churches report all ordinations, etc., to the Association.

From the letters we find that many of the churches report but meager contributions for the various objects fostered by the denomination, and many of them report but a pittance raised for their pastor, while a few report nothing under the head of pastor's salary, as well as under other important heads.

Other and important omissions are found which we do not mention in detail, and which arises, no doubt, from the defects in the printed forms used by the churches.

We notice that there is a want of uniformity as to the number of delegates sent from the various churches to the Association, and it appears that there is not a perfect understanding as to the basis of representation, and that there are differences of opinion as to the number of delegates each church is entitled to. Upon this question we recommend that action be taken at this session to definitely settle this question.

We find among the papers turned over to the committee, a communication from the Warrior Church, complaining that an injustice was done that church in the publication of the minutes of the last session of this Association, in that the said minutes showed that there was no report by letter from that church, while in fact there was a letter sent giving a full account of the work, and contributions of the church for the next preceding associational year. Upon investigation of this matter we are satisfied that the said letter was lost or mislaid while the documents were being handled by, and passed to and from the several committees, which had to examine them, and that there was no injustice intended, nor any criminal negligence upon the part of any of the

ers or committees of the Association; and we trust that the good

brethren of Warrior will accept this explanation of what appears to them as "grossly negligent" on the part of "some one."

In concluding this report we feel that candor compels us to say that the documents submitted to your Committee, taken as a whole, do not show a very healthy condition of our churches, but that they sadly show a want of more devotion to the cause of the Master, and of more systematic organization and work by the churches generally.

Fraternally submitted. H. H. BROWN, *Chairman.*

The Treasurer offered his report, which, after a lengthy discussion, was adopted:

REPORT OF F. M. WOOD, TREASURER CANAAN ASSOCIATION FROM OCTOBER 12, 1889 TO OCTOBER 1, 1890.

Received of former Treasurer	$ 46.72	
" of Finance Committee for general missions	55.57	
" " " State "	26.30	
" " " Home "	24.15	
" " " Foreign "	33.15	
" " " Ministerial educat'n	28 82	
" " " Minutes	64.70	
Sabbath collection	43.25	
Ladies Aid Society of Woodlawn Church for State Missions	3.82	$326.48
From Salem Church—		
Foreign missions	6.35	
State "	2.31	
Home "	2.30	10.96
From Dolomite Church—		
Ministerial education	11.50	
" "	3.50	15.00
From Trussville Church—		
State missions	10.00	
Home "	5.00	
Foreign "	5.00	20.00
From Adgar Church--		
State missions	3.00	
Ministerial education	3.00	6.00
From Woodlawn Church—		
State missions	66.60	
Home "	33.30	
Foreign "	31.20	
Ministerial education	7.50	138.60
Total amount received		$517.04

CREDITS.

By cash to R. W. Beck for minutes	$ 64.70	
" " George W. Ellis, Ministerial fund	50.00	
" " W. B. Crumpton. S. H. and F	349.50	
" " W. B. Crumpton, order G. D. Staton	22.00	
" " W. B. Crumpton, order W. D. Hubbard	25.00	
Stationery and commissions	5.50	
To balance on hand	.34	$517.04

The report on church improvements was read by G. G. Miles, and upon motion of P. T. Hale was adopted.

REPORT ON CHURCH IMPROVEMENT.

Your Committee on Church Improvement beg leave to report as follows:

We are proud to be able to report that the Baptists of this Association are awake on this subject, as is evidenced by the many improvements made and new edifices erected during the past year, together with those now in course of construction.

There can be no question as to the necessity of and advantage to be gained from comfortable and even elegant structures in which to worship.

Churches to a denomination bear the same relation as apparel does to the man, and is but one element among the many, and by no means the most important, necessary in the attainment of the grand results that we as a denomination are striving for.

In regard to church improvement, there can be attached too little importance, while on the other hand, with equal danger, there can be placed on it too great a value.

Pastors sometimes become zealots on this subject, and in the heat f their zeal, lose sight of the many other important factors ne c essary for the advancement of the interests of the denomination at large, and failing to consider the amount of means necessary to carry on these factors, tax their membership to the extent of their abillty, and too often beyond their ability, in the construction of buildings and the making of improvements.

The membership of a church, like individuals, are limited in income, and if taxed beyond the limit, must of necessity become involved, and being placed in this condition, they lose that enthusiasm which characterizes the thrifty and prosperous, and in place of being urged on to greater prosperity, become careless and unconcerned.

Hence, in considering church improvement and erection of churches, the character of such improvements or buildings should be determined according to the ability of the membership, considering at the same time the many other necessary demands to be made. We regard it a poor plan to attempt to build a church without sufficient means, and have to mortgage the same for money with which to complete it. We think it always advisable to build a church that will not require more

money than can be raised from the membersbip and other donations at the time of its construction. In the distribution of our funds for church improvements we should always consider where it will do the greatest good for the interest of the denomination at large. We have many places in this Association where, if we had small church buildings, great good could be done. Then, where we have comfortable churches, before considering more elegant buildings we should look around us, and see if with the same means we could not do more good in behalf of the denomination and the advancement of the Master's cause by investing in church buildings where there are none. This we consider carrying out the spirit of our religion. In all of our church buildings and improvements let them be built; losing sight of our own personal vanity and selfishness, considering nothing save the advancement of His cause and consummation of His glory. Respectfully submitted,

E. L. BULLARD, *Chairman.*

On motion of H. H. Brown the Finance Committee was instructed to finish its report and furnish it to the Clerk, said report not being prepared in time for adoption by the body.

The Moderator here announced the following standing committees:

Foreign Missions—W. A. Hobson, J. M. Huey, D. H. Vann.

Home Missions—E. H. Cabaniss, James Hogan, R. M. Inzer.

State Missions—J. M. Green, G. D. Staton, B. F. Weaver.

Education—T. J. Dill, A. N. Hendon, W. J. Sanford.

Sunday Schools—S. R. C. Adams, E. L. Nicholson, A. N. Hawkins.

Religious Literature and Colportage Work—H. H. Brown, J. W. Minor, J. F. Boston.

Temperance—G. T. Lee, W. O. M. Franklin, R. H. Briston.

Church Improvements—J. F. Huey, A. J. Glenn, O. J. Waldrop.

Spiritual Condition of the Churches—A. G. Nunnelley, G. W. Smith, J. P. Pearson.

The following resolution offered by A. W. McGaha was adopted:

Resolved, That the basis of representation to the Association be changed so that each church shall be entitled to three delegates for the first hundred, or fraction thereof, and one for each additional fifty, or fraction.

The following resolution offered by P. T. Hale was adopted:

Resolved, That the heartfelt thanks of this Association are hereby returned to the pastor and members of the Bessemer Baptist Church, and citizens of this city generally, for their courtesy and generous hospitality extended so graciously to the members of this body.

The following resolution offered by H. H. Brown was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed to take into consideration the subject of revising the Constitution of this Association, and if a revision is deemed proper, that said committee revise the same and report their action at the next session.

The following resolution offered by H. H. Brown was adopted:

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to procure as near as possible a complete file of the minutes of this Association from its organization up to the present time, and he be required to add to the same all minutes as hereafter published, and preserve said file, and have it present at each session of the Association.

The following resolution offered by R. W. Beck was adopted:

Resolved, That we adopt *The Birmingham Baptist* as our Associational organ, and urge upon the churches composing this body to take this paper and report their work regularly through its columns.

The Committee on the Spiritual Condition of the Churches failed to report.

Upon motion the Clerk was directed to print 1,200 copies of the minutes, and that he be allowed whatever remains of the minute fund, after paying for the printing, for his services.

After singing "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love," the fifty-seventh annual session of the Birmingham Association adjourned to meet with the Trussville Church at 10 o'clock a. m., on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in October, 1891.

R. W. Beck, *Clerk*. A. J. WALDROP, *Moderator*.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION, 1890.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.	Church Building (not at home)	Foreign Missions	State Missions.	For Church Poor and and Charities.	Bible and Colportage.	Ministerial Education —Howard College.	Minutes.	Howard College Building or Otherwise.	Judson Female Institute (building) or otherwise.	Sunday School Expenses and Contributions.	Total.	Home Expenses—Pastor's Salary, Lights, Fuel, etc.	Church Building, Repairs, etc., at home.	Value of Building and Furniture.
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Adger	.....	.....	.....	3.00	.....	.....	.....	1.00	.....	.....	.....	4.00	21.00	.....	.....
Avondale	6.25	.....	6.25	12.50	7.50	.....	.....	3.00	.....	.....	90.12	125.62	581.50	276.63	4,000.00
Bessemer	10.85	.....	12.43	17.52	39.90	.....	.....	2.60	5.00	.....	80.04	168.34	602.60	204.97	3,500.00
Bethany	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.50	.....	.....	1.73	3.25	.....	.....	250.00
Birmingham—															
First	162.62	75.00	162.62	162.62	109.25	25.00	57.07	10.00	1,195.75	.....	220.44	2,180.37	5,988.63	70.00	25,000.00
Second	22.00	.....	22.00	22.00	.....	.....	.....	2 30	.....	.....	65.00	133.30	1,125.00	.....	3,000.00
Third	7.83	.....	7 83	7.85	50.00	.....	.....	1.50	5.00	.....	.....	80.00	.....	.....	.....
South Side	14.32	.....	191.58	28.64	165 00	.....	.....	5.00	10.00	50.00	161.00	625 54	1,900.53	3,859.10	6,000.00
Canaan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 46	.....	.....	6.90	8.36	57.87	161.84	.....
Central	.....	5.15	3.00	10.05	5.15	.....	.....	4.00	.....	.....	7.65	35.00	103.00	.....	800.00
Concord	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.50	.....	.....	.....	1.50	25.00	.....	.....
Dolomite	.....	.....	.....	14.60	.....	.....	15.00	3.00	.....	.....	33.00	65.60	360.55	49.70	800.00
Elyton	1.45	.....	1.45	22.18	10.00	.....	5.00	2.00	.....	.....	35.02	77.10	329.15	355.02	3,000.00
Enon	.....	.....	2.50	2.50	.....	.....	.....	1.50	.....	.....	.....	6.50	50.00	150.00	.....
Ensley	.....	.....	.....	5.00	.....	.....	.....	1.00	.....	.....	27.05	33.05	208.00	.....	25.00
Greene Springs	1.00	.....	3.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.25	.....	.....	16.12	22.07	112.95	.....	600.00
Hopewell	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Johns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	.....	.....	2.36	4.36	5.50	.....	.....
Mt. Olive	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.00	.....	.....	1.00	.....	.....	.....	4.00	52.00	50.00	.....
New Prospect	.....	.....	5.35	6 00	.....	.....	20.00	3.40	80.00	.....	8.50	123.25	100.00	137.50	1,200.00
Oak Grove	.....	.....	.....	3.70	.....	.....	.....	1.65	.....	.....	.....	5.35	60.75	.....	.....
Pratt Mines	10 00	.....	88.82	.....	89.25	.....	2.00	3.00	10.00	10.00	88.25	301 32	519.77	578.50	3,000.00
Pleasant Ridge	15.00	.....	10.00	15.00	.....	40.00	10 00	2.00	.....	.....	5.00	97 00	90.00	.....	540.00
Ruhama	113.30	.....	62 79	91.15	157.08	7.10	39 00	5.00	1,250.00	.....	32.38	1,757 80	1,432.60	1,273.71	12,000.00
Salem	2.30	.....	6.35	2.31	.....	.....	5.50	2.00	.....	.....	6.50	24.96	30.85	.....	600.00
Springville	5.88	.....	5.87	5 87	.....	.....	17.62	2.90	.....	.....	11.00	49.14	349.66	13.51	2,000.00
Trussville	31.31	.....	.....	36.69	10.90	.....	7.50	2.50	145.00	30.00	49.20	313.10	432.85	140.10	3,000.00
Union	.....	.....	.....	2.00	.....	.....	.....	1.50	.....	.....	.....	3.50	.....	.....	.....
Warrior	.....	.....	44 47	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.50	12 50	.....	106.35	165.82	325.00	.....	1,000.00
Woodlawn	49 00	.....	77.60	72.92	75.00	.....	30.00	4 00	796.50	33 25	91.43	1,225.80	946.26	356 25	8,000.00
Total	$453.11	$80.15	$714.61	$544.10	$722.03	$72 10	$208.69	$76.06	$3,599.75	$123.25	$1,145.04	$7,644.94	$15,811.06	$7,676.83	$78,315.00

STATISTICS OF BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION, 1890.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE.	No. Ordained Ministers.	No. Licensed Ministers.	Membership last Reported.	INCREASE BY				DECREASE BY				Present Membership.	SUNDAY SCHOOL.				No. Baptized from S. S.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Volumes in Library.
								Baptism	Letter.	Otherwise.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.		Superintendent.	Superintendent's Post Office.	Officers & Teach'rs	Pupils.			
Adger	Jefferson	R. H. Blake	J. F. Boston	Adger	..	..	19	..	..	..	..	9	..	2	..	10						4th	..
Avondale	"	J. M. Greene	C. G. Smith	Avondale	2	..	116	4	27	..	1	19	9	..	3	104			13	70	4	All	..
Bessemer	"	M. M. Wood	T. P. Waller	Bessemer	1	..	86	14	15	2	..	18	..	..	..	108			8	92	2	All	..
Bethany	St. Clair.	W. I. Love	J. P. Pearson	Springville	..	1	44	2	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	39			5	30	..	4th	..
Birmingham—																							
First	Jefferson	W. L. Pickard	A. E. Atwater	Birmingham	4	..	479	12	109	..	6	16	6	39	3	542			15	300	4	All	..
Second	"	J. F. Savell	E. M. Haygard	"	1	1	49	23	25	..	..	5	1	..	2	90			14	150	16	..	50
Third	"	James Hogan	A. Hogan	"	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	10	9	..	..	47			5	40	..	..	..
South Side	"	P. T. Hale	J. A. Stratton	"	..	..	379	13	70	..	1	36	..	..	4	423	W. C. Ward	Birmingham	24	225	8	All	..
Canaan	"	E. L. Nicholson	W. S. Harrison	McCalla	..	..	46	2	1	..	..	2	2	..	1	44			4	45	2	3d	..
Central	"	G. D. Staton	R. M. Inzer	Argo	..	1	71	36	19	..	..	5	..	..	1	118			6	55	15	2d	.
Concord	"	V. A. Wilson	W. P. Echols.	Sandusky	..	1	33	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	35			..	..	..	..	..
Dolomite	"	G. T. Lee	J. W. Brown	Dolomite	1	2	150	8	6	2	..	17	12	..	1	134			9	90	2	..	..
Elyton	"	C. B. Lloyd	T. H. Wildsmith	Birmingham	..	..	37	14	21	..	..	2	..	..	2	68			9	85	6	All	..
Enon	"	M. T. Branham	J. A. Hall	Morris	..	..	53	18	2	..	..	..	2	..	2	73			..	..	..	4th	..
Ensley	"	G. D. Staton	J. K. Pemberton	Ensley City	2	..	13	..	14	..	..	..	1	..	1	25			6	53	..	1st-3d	..
Greene Spri'gs	"	R. B. Devine	G. W. Smith	Birmingham	..	..	27	..	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	27	Thomas Colley	Birmingham	4	35	..	..	..
Hopewell	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..
Johns	"	R. Y. Robertson	R. H. Briston	Johns	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	12			6	20	..	2d	..
Mt. Olive	"	G. W. Lovell	J. M. Landrum	Clay	..	..	19	4	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	22			..	..	..	3d	..
New Prospect	"	G. D. Staton	J. B. Franklin	Chalkville	4	..	135	..	6	..	..	2	..	..	1	133	W. L. C. Vann	..	6	65	..	1st	..
Oak Grove	"	E. B. Waldrop	W. B. McCombs	Mt. Pinson	..	..	86	2	3	..	..	3	..	..	1	83			..	..	..	..	..
Pratt Mines	"	G. T. Lee	J. W. Hancock	Ensley	1	1	120	3	14	..	..	27	1	2	1	116			14	141	2	2d–4th	..
Pleas'nt Ridge	"	O. J. Waldrop	S. H. Huey	Woodward	2	..	62	..	2	..	1	4	..	..	..	40			6	50	..	1st	..
Ruhama	"	A. W. McGaha	H. F. Wood	East Lake	9	6	219	23	40	..	1	12	1	..	3	270	R. J. Waldrop	East Lake	14	225	15	All	..
Salem	"	M. T. Branham	J. H. Hagood	Mt. Pinson	..	1	99	12	2	..	..	8	..	..	3	112			4	35	9	3d	..
Springville	"	J. A. Glenn	J. B. Herring	Springville	1	1	95	6	9	1	..	6	..	..	..	103			6	75	1	1st-3d	..
Trussville	"	S. R. C. Adams	D. H. Vann	Trussville	1	..	137	13	15	..	1	9	..	..	..	146			8	70	9	1st	..
Union	"	L. P. Craig	H. E. Parkerson	Bessemer	..	..	..	..	8	3	..	5	..	..	..	22			..	..	..	4th	..
Warrior	"	W. A. Hobson	H. A. Hagler	Warrior	2	1	..	11	11	..	..	12	1	..	1	82			9	109	5	1-2-4th	..
Woodlawn	"	S. R. C. Adams	M. N. Whitaker	Birmingham	4	1	134	10	25	..	..	10	..	..	1	159			14	110	4	2-3-4th	..
				TOTALS	35	17	2708	230	458	8	13	250	47	43	31	3187			209	2170	104	..	50

Organized during year: John's Union Church received from Harmony Association. Elyton reports prayer meeting and Woodlawn revival.